

## MERTENSIA DRUMMONDII (LEHM.) G. DON<sup>1</sup>

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In my "Monograph of the Genus *Mertensia* in North America" (Ann. Mo. Bot. Gard. **24**: 17-159. 1937) *Mertensia Drummondii* (Lehm.) G. Don was placed among the doubtful and excluded species, the type not being known. Since then Dr. A. E. Porsild, of the National Museum of Canada, has loaned me two specimens which seem undoubtedly to belong to *Mertensia Drummondii* and which help to clarify that species. In addition a specimen cited on page 113 of the monograph under *Mertensia viridis* A. Nels., belongs to *M. Drummondii*.

*Mertensia Drummondii* should be inserted on page 117 of the monograph, following the varieties of *M. viridis*. An account of the species is as follows:

**19f. *Mertensia Drummondii*** (Lehm.) G. Don, Gen. Hist. **4**: 319. 1838. Pl. 30.

*Lithospermum Drummondii* Lehm., Pug. **2**: 26. 1828.

*Mertensia sibirica* var. *Drummondii* Gray in Proc. Am. Acad. **10**: 53. 1875.

Stems erect or ascending, 7-15 cm. long, 1-few from each rootstalk; basal leaves elliptic (only one seen), acute, petiolate, blade 20 mm. long and 5 mm. broad, strigillose above, glabrous below, petiole about as long as the blade; cauline leaves sessile or nearly so, elliptic to broadly lanceolate, acute or obtuse, 1.5-3.5 cm. long, 5-10 mm. broad, strigillose above, glabrous below; inflorescence crowded, a modified scorpioid cyme; pedicels glabrous, 1-10 mm. long; calyx 4-8 mm. long, the lobes divided almost to the base, lanceolate, acute, ciliate; corolla-tube 4-7 mm. long, glabrous within; corolla-limb 4-7 mm. long, moderately expanded, about as long as or a little shorter than the tube; fornices inconspicuous, glabrous; anthers about 1.5-2 mm. long; filaments as long as the anthers; style usually exceeding the corolla-tube.

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Distribution: known definitely only from the Northwest Territories in the vicinity of Coronation Gulf.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES: "Camp Necessity," Clifton Point, west end of Dolphin and Union Strait, 1916, *Girling 687* (Nat. Mus. Canada); Wollaston Land, Lat. 69–70° N., Long. 115° W., Aug. 11, 1915, *Jenness 410* (Nat. Mus. Canada).

WITHOUT LOCALITY: a specimen marked "ex herb. Hooker, *Lithospermum Drummondii*, Fl. Bor.-Am.," and "Nov. 1874. I say it is *M. sibirica* Don var. *Drummondii*. Large-flowered form. A. Gr[ay]." (New York Botanical Garden).

A curious species which is most closely allied to *Mertensia viridis* A. Nels. It seems to be an outlying species of a group of which the center of distribution is in Colorado. The closest station of an allied species of *M. Drummondii* is more than 1500 miles to the south.

#### EXPLANATION OF PLATE

##### PLATE 30

*Mertensia Drummondii*. Habit sketch  $\times 1\frac{1}{3}$ ; flower parts  $\times 3\frac{1}{3}$ .